

OXFORD OBSERVER.

"LOVE ALL, DO WRONG TO NONE, BE CHEATED FOR SILENCE BUT NEVER TAX'D FOR SPEECH." SHAKESPEARE.

VOLUME II.]

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THE REFLECTOR.

THE WIDOW'S SON.

In a village which stands on the sea shore there lately lived a widow who had formerly seen better days. Her husband was a respectable sea Captain, and supported his family in ease and affluence. But amidst his own, and the hopes of his family, he was lost at sea, leaving his widow with two little sons, one of six years old, and the other an infant. She retired from the circle in which she had so long moved with esteem, and purchased a neat little cottage by the water's side. Here she brought up her little boys, and early endeavored to lead them "in the way they should go." She felt herself to be a pilgrim below, and taught her sons that this world was never designed for our home.

In this manner this little family lived retired, beloved and respected. The mother would often lead her children on the hard, sandy beach, just as the setting sun was tipping the smooth, blue waters with his last yellow tints. She would then tell them of their father who was gone, and with her finger would write his name upon the sand, and as the next wave obliterated every trace of the writing, would tell them that the hopes and joys of this world are equally transient. When the eldest son had arrived at the age of twelve, he was seized with an incurable desire of going to sea. He had heard sailors talk of their voyages, of visiting other climes and other countries, and his imagination threw before him a thousand pleasures could be also visit them. The remonstrance and entreaties of a tender parent and an affectionate little brother, were all in vain. He at length wrung a reluctant consent from his mother, and reviving from her a Bible, a mother's blessing and prayers, he embarked on board a large brig. He promised his mother, as he gave a last parting hand, that he would daily read his Bible, and as often commit himself to God in prayer. A few tears and a few sighs escaped him as he saw the last blue tints of his native land fade from his sight; for there were the cottage of his mother, and all the joys of his childhood; but all was novelty around him, and he soon forgot these pangs amidst other cares and other scenes. For some time he remembered his promise to his mother, and daily read his Bible; but the sneers of the wicked crew recalled his mind from reviewing the instructions of his pious mother and he placed his Bible in the bottom of his chest, to slumber with his conscience. During a severe storm, indeed, when it seemed as if destruction was yawning to receive every soul on board, he thought of his mother, his home, and his promises, and in the anguish of his heart, resolved to amend should his life be spared. But when the storm had subsided the seas were smooth and the clear sun brought joy and gladness over the great waters, he forgot all his promises. No one of the crew could be more profane—no one more ready to scoff at that religion which in his childhood and innocence he had been taught to love and revere.

After an absence of several years, he found himself once more drawing near his native land. He had traversed the globe, but during all this time had neither written to his mother, nor heard from her. Though he had thrown off restraint, and blunted the finer feelings of his nature, yet his bosom thrilled with pleasure at the thought of once more meeting his parent and brother. It was in the fall of the year he returned, and, on a lovely eve in September, he walked toward his long deserted home. Those only are acquainted with the pleasures of the country who have spent their early days in rural retirement. As the young sailor drew near the cottage of his mother, he descended the last sloping hill which hid it from his sight, his memory recalled all the scenes of his "happier days," while fancy whispered deceitfully, that hours agreeable would again be realized. The hills over which he had so often roamed; the grove through which he had so often wandered, while it echoed with the music of the feathered tribe; the gentle stream on whose banks he had so often sported; and the rising spire of the temple of Jehovah; all tended to excite the most interesting sensations. He drew near the cottage, and found all was stillness. A solemnity seemed to breath around him, and as he rapt at the door, his heart misgave him, though he knew not why. He knocked, but no one bade him enter. He called, but no answer was returned, save the echo of his own voice. It seemed like knocking at the door of a tomb. The nearest neighbour, hearing the noise, came and found the youth sitting and sobbing on the steps of the door. "Where," cried he with eagerness, "where is my mother and my brother? O, I hope they are not?" "If," said the stranger, "you inquire for widow —, I can only pity you. I have known her but a short time; but she was the best woman I ever knew. Her little boy died of a fever about a year ago, and in consequence of fatigue in taking care of him, and anxiety for a long absent son at sea, the good widow herself was buried yesterday. 'O heavens!' cried the youth, 'have I only staid long enough to kill my mother! Wretch that I am; show me the grave; I have a dagger in my bundle; let me die with my mother; my poor broken hearted parent!' "Hold,

friend," said the astonished neighbour; "if you are this woman's eldest son, I have a letter for you, which she wrote a few days before she died, and desired you might receive it, should you ever return."

They both turned from the cottage, and went to the house of the neighbour. A light being produced, the young man threw down his bundle and hat, and read the following short letter, while his manly cheeks were covered with tears:

"My dearest, only son,

When this reaches you I shall be no more. Your little brother has gone before me, and I cannot but hope and believe he was prepared. I had fondly hoped I should have once more seen you on the shores of mortality, but the hope is now relinquished. I have followed you by prayers through all your wanderings. Often, when you little suspected it, even in the dark, cold nights of winter, have I knelt for my lost son. There is but one thing which gives me pain at dying, and that is, my dear William, that I must leave you in this wicked world, as I fear, unreconciled to your Maker! I am, too low to say more. My glass is run. As you visit the sods which cover my dust, O remember that you, too, must soon follow. Farewell; the last breath of your mother will be spent in praying for you; that we may meet above."

The young man's heart was melted on reading these few words from the parent whom he so tenderly loved; and I will only add, that this letter was the means, in the hands of God, of bringing this youth to a saving knowledge of the truth "as it is in Jesus;" that he is now a very respectable and pious man; and that we may learn from Scripture, and from daily experience, the "praying breath" shall never be spent in vain.

THE REPOSITORY.

FROM THE CHESHIRE GAZETTE.

A PEEP AT THE INDIANS OF '49.

History is the grand spy-glass which enables us to take a view of variety of interesting objects of antiquity at once, and generally the more distant the object the more wonderful and interesting they appear when brought within the field-view of intelligence. Hence it is, that while the ingenuity of historians has been employed in prying into the most rare foreign productions, on the catalogue of human exploits, many equally worthy the attention of the patriot and philanthropist, in our own neighbourhood, slumber in the tomb of oblivion unnoticed and unknown. Some of our forefathers, whose bones quietly repose beneath the sods of our own valleys, and whose achievements live only in the memories of their children, can boast of deeds that will be the theme of admiration to historians some thousand years hence. Their hardships, their sufferings, their preservation and prosperity in a wilderness of enemies, their heroic defence against surrounding multitudes of hostile savages, are subjects which excite very little attention among those who are now enjoying the "milk and honey" of the land, but which ought to be enrolled among the deeds of Theban and Spartan valour.

The following sketch describes one of the most chivalric exploits the annals of our country can produce:

In the year 1749, John Kilburn, the hero of the following story, came to Walpole, (N. H.)

The large and fertile meadows at the mouth of Cold River, slightly covered with butternut and elm, presented an inviting prospect to the new settlers and an easy harvest to the hand of cultivation. Here he built a log hut, and for two years lived in the solitude of the forest, without any intercourse with friend or foe.

He often sought opportunities to cultivate the friendship of the Indians, but on every occasion they studiously avoided him. During this time his life was one continual scene of danger and hardship, constantly exposed to the inclemencies of the weather and the secret attacks of an insidious foe.

And what rendered his situation still more uncomfortable, he was obliged to camp out at different places each night, "the cold earth his bed," with a bear-skin for a covering, and a cartridge-box for his pillow, in order to avoid the midnight prowling of the savages, who were watching in concealment for an opportunity to strike the deadly blow, and who often paid their nocturnal visits at his dwelling and took from him such articles as might contribute to their convenience or the gratification of their wanton disposition.

Very different is the situation of those, who are now

cultivating the same soil, planting at their leisure the luxuriant corn, and reaping in ease and affluence the fruits of their labours.

In 1751, Col. Benjamin Bellows obtained the

charter of Walpole, and began a settlement on

land about a mile south of Kilburn's, the site

now occupied by the out-buildings of Esq. T.

Bellows. There was a fort also at Charlestown,

then called Number Four. This addition to

the strength of the white settlers induced the

Indians to treat them with more respect. About

this time a company came down the river, landed

their boats above the falls, and invited Kil-

burn to trade with them. He visited their boats,

bought some skins and made some presents of

flints, flour, and fish-hooks. From this time

the Indians continued to hunt and encamp about

the neighbourhood, and the report of their guns and the smoke of their wigwams were mingled with the familiar occurrences of life.

The affairs of the settlers continued to prosper till 1758, when the first alarming incident occurred to disturb the happiness and security of the whites. Two men by the name of Twitchell and Flint, who had gone back to the hills about a mile east to procure some ash timber for oars, were shot by the Indians; one of them was scalped, the other they cut open and took out his heart, cut it in pieces and laid it on his breast.

This was the first Christian blood spilt in Walpole. Their bodies were buried near where they were found, and a ridge of land

the west side of the road; about two miles north of Walpole village towards Drewsville, points out the spot hallowed by the remains of the first victims of Indian massacre. The solemn

impression this occurrence made upon the

minds of the new settlers was not soon effaced.

It is said, the guardian spirit of Twitchell continued to hover over his friends, warning them of the wiles and hostile intentions of the Indians, as long as his murderers were permitted to live. A remarkable rock in Connecticut river, where he used to fish with never failing success, was for a long time held in religious veneration; and to this day such is the propitious influence of the presiding spirit that few of the angling votaries who come to worship on the "Twitchell Rock," return without taking from the limpid stream generous fry.

The massacre of Twitchell and Flint was the first harbinger of the rupture of the negotiations for peace between England and France, and the commencement of those horrid scenes of Indian barbarity that ensued.

In the spring of 1755, an Indian by the name of Philip, who had acquired just English enough to be understood, visited Kilburn's house, pretending to be on a hunting excursion, in want of provisions. He was treated with kindness and furnished with every thing he wanted, such as flints, flour, &c. Soon after he was gone it was ascertained that the same Indian had visited all the settlements on Connecticut River about the same time, and with the same plausible pretensions of hunting. Kilburn had already learned a little of the Indian finesse and suspected, as it proved, that this Philip was a wolf in sheep's clothing. Not long after the following intelligence was communicated to all the forts by a friendly Indian sent by General Shirley, from Albany: He stated that four or five hundred Indians were collecting in Canada, whose object it was to butcher the whole white population on Connecticut River. Judge then of the feelings of a few white settlers when they learned the impending danger. To desert their soil, cattle, and crops of grain, would be leaving their all, and to contend with the countless savages of the Canadian regions, was a hopeless resort. But accustomed to all the hardships and dangers of life, they boldly resolved to defend themselves or die in the cause. Kilburn and his men now strengthened their defence with such fortifications as their rude implements would allow, which consisted in surrounding their habitation with a palisade of stakes stuck into the ground.

Col. Benjamin Bellows had at this time about 30 men under his command at the fort about a mile south of Kilburn's house, but this could afford Kilburn no protection while attending to his cattle and crops.

Kilburn and his son John in his 18th year, a man by the name of Peak, and his son, were returning home from work, about noon, August 17th, 1755, when one of them discovered the red legs of the Indians among the alders "as thick as grasshoppers." They instantly made for the house, fastened the door, and began to make preparations for an obstinate defence. Besides these four men, there were in the house, Kilburn's wife and his daughter Hitty, who contributed not a little to encourage and assist their companions, as well as to keep watch upon the movements of the enemy. In about 15 minutes the Indians were seen crawling up the bank east of the house, and as they crossed a foot path one by one, 197 were counted; about the same number remained in ambush near the mouth of Cold River.

The Indians had learned that Col. Benj. Bellows with his men were at work at his mill about a mile east, and that it would be best to waylay and secure them before disturbing those who had taken refuge in the log house. Bellows and his men (about 30) were returning home with each a bag of meal on their backs, when their dogs began to growl and betray symptoms of an enemy's approach. He well knew the language of his dogs, and the native

intrigue of the Indians. Nor was he at loss in forming his opinion of their intention to ambush his path, and conducted himself accordingly.

He ordered all his men to throw off the meal, advanced to the rise, carefully crawl up the bank, spring upon their feet, give one whoop and instantly drop into the sweet firm. This manoeuvre had the desired effect; for as soon as the whoop was given the Indians all arose from their ambush in a semi-circle around the path Bellows was to follow.

This gave his men a fine chance for a shot, which they improved instantaneously. The first shot so disconcerted the plans and expectations of the

Indians that they darted away into the bushes without firing a gun. Bellows finding their number too numerous for his, ordered his men to file off to the south and make for the fort. The Indians next appeared on the eminence east of Kilburn's house, when the same "old Devil," Philip, who had visited him the summer before, came forward, and securing himself behind a tree called out to those in the house to surrender. "Old John, young John," says he, "I know you, come out here—We give ye good quarter." "Quarter!" vociferated old Kilburn with a voice of thunder, that rang through every Indian's heart, and every hill and valley; "You black rascals, begone, or we'll quarter you."

Who would have anticipated this more than Spartan reply from fourmen, when called upon by as many hundreds to deliver up their arms.

Philip then returned to his companions and after a few minutes consultation the war-whoop commenced as if (to use the expression of an ear witness) "all the devils in hell had been let loose." Kilburn was so lucky as to get the first fire before the smoke of the enemies guns obstructed his aim, and was confident he saw an Indian fall, which from his extraordinary size and other appearances must have been Philip. The Indians rushed forward to the work of destruction; and probably not less than 400 bullets were lodged in Kilburn's house at the first fire. The roof was a perfect "riddle sieve." Some of them fell to butchering the cattle, others were busily employed in wantonly destroying the hay and grain, while a shower of bullets kept up one continual pelting against the house.

Meanwhile Kilburn and his men were by no means idle. Their powder was already poured into hats for the convenience of loading in a hurry, and every thing prepared for a spirited defence or glorious death. They had several guns in the house which were kept hot by incessant firing through the port holes, and as they had no ammunition to spare each one took special aim to have every bullet tell. The women with true Grecian firmness assisted in loading the guns, and when their stock of lead grew short, they had the forethought to suspend blankets in the roof of the house to catch the enemies' balls, which were immediately run into bullets by them and sent back to the savages with equal velocity.

Think ye, fair dames of Walpole, could your delicate nerves command the hot ladle of lead, load the murderous gun and mingle in all the dread tumults of war? Several attempts were made to burst open the door, but the bullets within scattered death with such profusion, that soon compelled them to desist from the rash undertaking. Most of the time the Indians endeavored to keep behind stumps, logs and trees, which evidently evinced, that they were not insensible to the unceremonious visits of Kilburn's bullets.

All the afternoon one incessant firing was kept up till nearly sundown, when the Indians began to disappear; and as the sun sunk behind the western hills, the sound of the guns and the cry of the war-whoop died away in silence. This day's encounter proved an effectual check to the expedition of the Indians and induced them immediately to return to Canada; and it is within the bounds of reason to conclude, that this matchless defence was instrumental in rescuing hundreds of our fellow-citizens from the horrors of an Indian massacre. Thus did the intrepid Leonidas not with 300 but only three followers repulse the congregated forces of the Canadian savages.

Seldom has it fallen to the lot of any of our forefathers, by personal courage and valour, to reap a more brilliant crown of laurels than that won by Kilburn on that memorable day. Only one of this invincible band of heroes was wounded. Peak by exposing himself too much before the port-hole, received a ball in his hip, which, for want of surgical aid, proved fatal the fifth day.

During the whole of the Indian and French

war that continued till 1763 the Indians never afterwards made their appearance in Walpole.

Kilburn lived to see the town of Walpole populous and flourishing, his fourth generation on the stage, and reciprocate with them all the comforts and enjoyments of civilization. He possessed an honest heart, manifested in his upright deportment a Christian temper, and died in the expectation of seeing that country where wars and fightings never come. A substantial, plain, unpolished stone, indicative of the character which he maintained, points out the spot in Walpole burying-ground, where sleep his mortal remains, with this inscription:

"In memory of
JOHN KILBURN, who departed
this life for a better, April 8th, 1769,
in the 55th year of his age. He
was the first settler of this
Town, in 1749."

His son "young John" for the last time visited the field of his youthful exploits in 1814. After that he resided in Shrewsbury, (Vt.) with his children, till he died, which was in 1822.

One of the party of "about forty unknown people dressed like Indians," who boarded the ship Eleanor, in Boston, in 1773, and threw overboard 114 chests of tea, now lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is, says the Crisis, a temperate, hardy old veteran, and supports his family by the sweat of his brow. He often boasts of the "Boston Tea Party."

MISCELLANY,

FROM THE TRENTON EMPORIUM.

FRANK VANDERHACKEN'S DREAM.

Frank Vanderhucken was one of those discontented mortals who are eternally endeavoring to wear out the patience of our good lady, Dame Fortune, with a catalogue of complaints as long as the tail of the great comet we saw just before the last British war. His crops never grew to his liking—the season was always too wet or too dry—too warm or too cold. The prices of grain were forever too low, and that of groceries too high, for the plain reason that he sold the former and always had to buy the latter—because Madam and the young ladies, like good Christian women, loved to set off a smart tea-table, and Frank himself was no very decided enemy to good living. But things went wrong and he was not a happy man.

His neighbours used to call him a castle-building sort of a genius; and said all his troubles arose from his dreaming himself into a very great man every night, and waking up plain Farmer Frank in the morning—and certainly it can be no very pleasant thing to wear a crown at night, whether in fancy or in reality, and be tumbled down to the plough tail in the morning—it's worse than plunging from a warm bed into a cold bath.—But however this might have been, his affairs became in time somewhat deranged, in consequence of the inattention to business which grew out of his perpetual repining. A heavy heart never drives business on spiritedly, and misfortunes sometimes come in earnest to those who take so much pains to persuade themselves they are unfortunate.

Thus were affairs situated when Frank, who

from being discontented with his own situation had become envious of that of every one else,

after a long walk over his farm, at this time

loaded with the promises of a rich harvest, re-

turned home, and throwing himself on a sofa,

fell into a profound sleep; and directly a tall, noble looking man, wrapped up in a large cloak,

stood by his side, and accosted him with "come,

Frank, my name is Fortune, go with me—I

have long heard thy complaints, and purpose

holding a fair to-day, by attending which thou

mayest probably better thy hard lot." He rose

immediately and putting on his hat accompa-

nied his mysterious guide.

Presently he found himself in an extensive plain crowded with a vast number of men be- longing to all the different professions in the world. "Here," said Fortune, pointing to the great assemblage, "here are many thousands of good men, either of whom will change situations and property with you, even-handed, at my command—you may therefore make your choice." Frank thanked his good friend—his eyes sparkled with pleasure, as the crowd began to pass one after another before him, and he could hardly refrain from jumping with joy, as his eye rested on the portly form of a rich neighbour of his, who was one of the first to approach him, and whose long purse he had often bitterly envied him.

"That is the man, if you please," said Frank, and at the beck of his companion, old Mort- gage stood by his side, and very complacently began to deliver up his deeds and bonds and obligations, and having done so, Frank was about to run home with the glad news and get ready to put the old man in possession of the little farm; but Mortgage lifted up his gouty leg, and Fortune called—"Here, Frank, this goes with the rest—the bargain is situation for situation, and the gouty foot goes with neighbour Mortgage's estate." Frank was thunderstruck; he started a minute, and threw down the bundle of papers, as a man would drop a hot dumpling—"I would not have his gout," said he, "for all the date."

The next person that arrested Frank's at- tention, was a wealthy shipping merchant, of the city. He was again in raptures—and bent on the exchange. The merchant began to de- liver inventories of his property, and among the rest those of the cargoes of five vessels at sea. These last constituted a main part of the clear estate; and Frank never knew the anxiety that follows the possession of such property till now—he remembered the great storm but a few days before; and that he heard of the wreck of some vessels on the shore. He hesitated; he trembled; he turned to go, but he felt that he should be forever unhappy; and he once more declared himself to be dis- satisfied; and that as yet he had not found one whose situation was better than his own.

Then a dashing young fellow who owned the largest, richest, and most elegant farm in all Annandale, presented himself; and Frank was sure of being suited. He had often envied Je- hu's fine horses and carriage, and thought, to be a farmer after that sort would be worth living for. But when the young buck came to deliver up the title deed, a bond and mortgage, with interest unpaid, for half a dozen years, was enclosed in it; enough to swallow two thirds of the estate, and horses and carriage in the bar- gain—Frank drew back. "No, no," said he, "the dairy is clear of debt, and don't slip through my fingers this way."

Thus it turned out with some hundreds more who were presented as candidates for a change of situation with Frank. Though these were taken promiscuously from among the rich and poor—farmers, merchants, mechanics, professional men, &c. Some were encumbered with debts; others with diseases that belong to their necessary mode of life; some had one trouble; some another difficulty; and Frank in the end was thoroughly convinced he would never be able to better his condition on the whole by an exchange—and expressed to his kind guide his perfect satisfaction with his condition.

"Take them, home with you," said Fortune,

"this truth—none are perfectly happy in this world; few comparatively so. In every situation there are difficulties to be encountered, things unpleasant to be endured; and he is the happiest man, who determines to be contented with what he has, instead of troubling his head about what he has not. You can see but the outside of others; you know nothing of the secret troubles which perplex every bosom. Try to be happy; and you will be as happy as your neighbours."

Frank waked from his sleep just as Fortune had finished this speech; and has ever since been a changed man. There is not at this day a more merry fellow in all Annandale.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.

IN THE SENATE.

FRIDAY, Feb. 17.

Passed to be engrossed—Bill to incorporate Kennebec and Androscoggin Canal Association; to incorporate "President, Directors and Company of the Agamenticus Bank," at Kennebunk; to incorporate the Litchfield Manufacturing Co.; additional for the government of the State Prison and for the punishment of convicts; imposing a duty on sales at auction; additional to an act to exempt certain goods and chattels from attachment, execution and distress for taxes to enable owners of meeting-houses to manage the same;—also, Resolves providing compensation for certain officers of the Legislature; providing for Clerk hire in the public offices; for reimbursing Major K. PARRIS, Governor of the State, certain expenses, viz. \$300, by him incurred, during the visit of Gen. LAFAYETTE.

The further consideration of the subject of filling the vacancy in the office of Major General of the 4th Division of the Militia of this State was postponed to the next Senate.

TUESDAY, Feb. 21.

Leave to bring in a bill was reported on the petition of Henry W. Fuller and others, praying for leave to erect a dam across the Kennebunk River, at Augusta. The report was accepted and referred with the accompanying papers to the next Legislature.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22.

Bill to set off certain inhabitants from Buckfield to Paris was referred to the next Legislature in concur- rence.

IN THE HOUSE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22.

Bill respecting the safe keeping of Justices Records was passed to a third reading.

Bill extending the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court and of Justices of the Peace was passed to be enacted.

THURSDAY, Feb. 23.

Bill prohibiting the sale of Lottery Tickets, was passed to be engrossed.

Bill authorizing a Lottery for improving the navigation of Kennebunk River, was reported with amend- ments, which were adopted.

FOREIGN.

FROM ENGLAND.

The packet ship *Manhattan*, from Liverpool, Jan. 8, arrived at New-York on Saturday evening, 18th ult. Our correspondent, Mr. T. SNOWDEN, of the *National Advocate*, has favoured us with the London Public Ledger of the 6th, (the latest received,) and extracts from Liverpool papers of the 7th. [See *Stats.*]

The Ledger contains the whole of President Adams' Message at the opening of Congress.

The bank of England is said to have paid in one day the enormous amount of five millions sterling. Rothschild paid into the bank, in one day, £300,000.

The Paris Constitutionnel announces that the Prussian Government has appointed agents to proceed to the new Government of South America.

It is stated that English Consuls will be ap- pointed to reside in Hayti.

London, Jan. 4. In consequence of the scar- city of British spirits, there is this day a con- siderable demand for rum, and some purchases of proof rums, supposed to be for Rectifiers' ac- count, have been made at 2s. 2d. per gallon old measure.

As the duty on rum is in future to be considerably reduced, the spirit merchants and dealers have, during the last three months, made scarcely any purchases; but on the con- trary they have been anxious to hold as little as possible at the same time when that decline in the value would occur, which must attend the reduction in the duty. The last quarter's revenue is therefore deprived of nearly the whole amount of the rum duty, which however is only a temporary inconvenience, and can pro- duce no ultimate loss to the Exchequer, for it will be remedied by the increased amount of duty which the consumption of the first quarter this year, will cause to be paid into the Treasury, as spirit merchants probably will then have given in charge to the same officer, to be exchanged against the former.

The *Illustrian Observer*, of the 22d ult. gives

the particulars of the accounts brought by the express that arrived on the 21st from St. Pe- tersburgh.

The Emperor had felt indisposed at Bakstschisara, in the Crimea, but continued

his journey back to Taganrog, partly on horse- back, where he arrived on the 16th with some

degree of fever. He wrote on the same day

to his mother, the Empress Maria, that he was

unwell, but that he took care of himself, and

that the indisposition would be of little conse- quence. The remaining particulars coincide with those already published.

Private letters from Warsaw give the follow-

ing particulars of the death of the Emperor

Alexander, the correctness of which we will

by no means warrant:—The Emperor appears

to have taken cold on his journey through Cri- mea, where he travelled long distances on

horseback on the sea-coast; fever ensued, and

he returned ill to Taganrog, where he grew

worse. Suddenly the wound in his foot, which

had been hitherto opened, closed, on which he

is said to have exclaimed—"J'aurai le sort de

mais sour," and made his last disposition in the

presence of Generals Diebitch and Wolkonsky.

From MATANZAS. A vessel has arrived at

Norfolk, which left Matanzas about 3d Feb.

The U. S. ship *Hornet*, with the Commodore's

flag, was going in the same day. The Fox was

engaged in convoying. The Grampus sailed a

few days before.

A letter states that on the 1st, 14 negroes,

who were engaged in the revolt in March last,

were shot. A report had reached Matanzas

that the Pirates had captured, and taken into

"Bayou Cordeveras," (about 20 miles from

M.) two vessels supposed to be American, and

after plundering them, set fire to them and

murdered all hands—some of the goods sup-

posed to have belonged to the above vessels

were seen on the road to Matanzas, by a re-

spective American.

The writer further adds—"The Summer

and calm seasons on the coast are fast approach- ing; and if redoubled exertions are not used

by Government, and cruisers are not vigilan-

and industrious, their knives will be again sharp- ened—when *Blood and Plunder* will be the

order of the day."

severally one per cent. dearer than they were yesterday. With the example of the satisfactory state in which the public debt of the United States of North America now is, and on reflection on the value of European national securities, it is extraordinary that the advance, which is now visibly in progress in the value of the bonds of these new Republics did not long ago occur.

LONDON, Jan. 5. We have received the Paris papers of Monday, and the *Étoile*, dated Tuesday. They are chiefly occupied with the controversy respecting the succession to the Russian throne; but whilst the abdication of Constantine is insisted upon as strenuously as ever on one side, the contradiction is not given in a less peremptory tone on the other. As yet we see no reason to change our own opinion on the subject, as we can see no reason for further mystery, if there be any truth in the statement. Had Constantine, as stated, freely renounced his right to the throne in favour of his brother, the fact would, in all probability, be fully ascertained before now, as there could be no motive, at least that we can discover, for concealment. The regular order of succession would not be disturbed; and therefore the most timid mind could see in the proceeding no danger to the national tranquillity. But, if we are wrong, we are not at least under error in rejecting that part of the report, which says, that the abdication has been the voluntary act of Constantine. If there be any uncertainty on the subject, it arises from some arrangement of the late Emperor, by which he wished to interrupt the regular Order of Succession; in which case, we have no doubt but Constantine

would try to set it aside by the sword. In the mean time, the Directing Senate at St. Petersburg has ordered that Prince to be proclaimed in every part of the Empire with the customary formalities—an order wholly inconsistent, in our opinion, with the idea, that Alexander has left a testamentary disposition of a different kind. It appears, too, that Constantine has been proclaimed at Moscow; and it will be found, or we are greatly mistaken, that the rumour of his abdication has its origin solely in the wishes of those, who see in his succession the seeds of political troubles.

THE EX-KING OF SWEDEN. The following curious statement appears in *Gallican's Messenger*—“Extract of a private letter of the 25th instant, from Mayence:—The public attention is at this moment powerfully excited by the disappearance of Colonel Gustafson, (Ex-King of Sweden,) whom it was customary to see almost daily within our walls. His Hotel is situated at Cassel, a parish comprehended within the fortifications of Mayence. His attendants assert, that he went to his son, who resides at Carllsruhe, with his mother, and that from thence they both departed for Russia. Well informed persons say that Gustavus was very intimate with Prince Constantine, and kept up a regular correspondence with him.”

The *Oriental Spectator*, dated Nov. 25, contains, under date of Modon, Nov. 14, an article, which states Ibrahim Pacha to have sent out with 8000 fresh troops, but well disciplined, and 1000 cavalry, for Missolonghi, and that the Turkish fleet had sailed for the same destination. It also contains two lists of 16 and 52 Turkish prisoners, which Com. Hamilton is said to have taken on board the Cambrian, in order to convey them to Modon, and a list of Greek prisoners, 76 in number, who appear to have been given in charge to the same officer, to be exchanged against the former.

The *Illustrian Observer*, of the 22d ult. gives the particulars of the accounts brought by the express that arrived on the 21st from St. Pe- tersburgh. The Emperor had felt indisposed at Bakstschisara, in the Crimea, but continued his journey back to Taganrog, partly on horse- back, where he arrived on the 16th with some

degree of fever. He wrote on the same day

to his mother, the Empress Maria, that he was

unwell, but that he took care of himself, and

that the indisposition would be of little conse- quence. The remaining particulars coincide with those already published.

Private letters from Warsaw give the follow- ing particulars of the death of the Emperor Alexander, the correctness of which we will by no means warrant:—The Emperor appears to have taken cold on his journey through Cri- mea, where he travelled long distances on horseback on the sea-coast; fever ensued, and he returned ill to Taganrog, where he grew worse. Suddenly the wound in his foot, which had been hitherto opened, closed, on which he is said to have exclaimed—"J'aurai le sort de mais sour," and made his last disposition in the

presence of Generals Diebitch and Wolkonsky.

From MATANZAS. A vessel has arrived at

Norfolk, which left Matanzas about 3d Feb.

The U. S. ship *Hornet*, with the Commodore's

flag, was going in the same day. The Fox was

engaged in convoying. The Grampus sailed a

few days before.

A letter states that on the 1st, 14 negroes,

who were engaged in the revolt in March last,

were shot. A report had reached Matanzas

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act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, passed March 18th, 1818.²¹

By this act, no person then on the pension list, or who should thereafter be placed thereon by virtue of the act of March 18th, 1818, was permitted, after the payment of that part of the pension which became due on the 4th of March, 1820, to continue to receive the pension granted by the said act, until he should have exhibited to some Court of Record in the county, city, or borough where he resided, a schedule subscribed by him, containing his whole estate and income, and should have taken, subscribed, and produced to the said Court, the oath prescribed in the said act; nor until he should have delivered to the Secretary of War a copy of the said schedule and with certified by the Clerk of the Court to which the said schedule was exhibited, together with the opinion of the said Court, also certified by their Clerk, of the value of the property contained in the said schedule. The said act further provided, that the said Secretary, on the receipt of the copy of the schedule and oath aforesaid, should cause to be stricken from the list of pensioners under the said act, the name of every person who should not, in his opinion, be in such indigent circumstances, as to be unable to support himself without the assistance of his country.

This act took from the applicant the power of judging in his own case, and placed it in the hands of the Secretary of the War Department. The disclosure of the amount of property of every applicant, furnished data by which each case might be decided by an uniform rule. By a communication from the Secretary of the War Department, in answer to a resolution of this House, of the 25th of January last, it appears that no one is considered to be in such indigent circumstances as to be unable to support himself, without the assistance of his country, or is admitted to the pension roll, whose property exceeds three hundred dollars in value.

In pursuance of the provisions of this act, the names of more than 6,000 persons were stricken from the pension roll, and more than 12,000 were adjudged to be entitled to the benefit of the Act of March 18th, 1818, and their pensions were restored to them.

The pensions granted by the act of March 18th, 1818, were of an elemetary nature. A pension under that act was a monthly gratuity, payable in such manner as Congress should direct, the cessation of which it was competent for Congress to direct, at least until it could be ascertained that their liberality was not abused.

All the Revolutionary pensions, by the Act of May 1st, 1820, in fact, ceased on the 4th March, 1820; and on the decision of the Secretary of War, on the schedule delivered to him in favour of any pension his pension commenced anew.

This seems to have been the construction of the Secretary of the War Department; is agreeable to the terms of the act; and the Committee can perceive no reason why any alteration should be made in the law, with regard to the first class of cases.

II. With regard to the second class of cases:

By the act of March 1st, 1823, the Secretary of War is required to restore to the list of Revolutionary Pensioners, the name of any person who may have been, or hereafter shall be, stricken therefrom, in pursuance of the aforesaid act of May 1st, 1820, if such person had before furnished, or should thereafter furnish, evidence, agreeable to the provisions of the said act, to satisfy the said Secretary that he is in such indigent circumstances as to be unable to support himself, without the assistance of his country, and that he has not disposed of, or transferred his property, or any portion thereof, with a view to obtain a pension.

The said act further provided, that no pension to be allowed on schedules, before filed, under the act or acts to which this is a supplement, or under the provisions of this act, shall commence before the passage thereof, and that all other pensions hereafter to be allowed, under the acts aforesaid, shall commence from the time of completing the proof.

Those who procured their names to be placed on the pension list, when in circumstances to procure their own support, must be considered to have done it in fraud of the law, and, on restoration to the roll, after the reduction or consumption of their property, by the aforesaid act of March 3d, 1823, have no manner of claim for any intermediate allowance. It might, with more propriety, be made a question, whether what they received under the act of March 18th, 1818, ought not to be deducted from the pension now allowed them.

In neither case, therefore, can the Committee consider it expedient to make any alteration in the laws, relative to the payment of pensions to the different classes of Revolutionary Pensioners."

The report was ordered to lie on the table.

Abstract of a Journal of the weather, for twenty-five years past—continued from our last.

1802: From Feb. 1 to 12, good weather: 13, foggy & hazy: 14, clears off fair & warm: 15, cold and stormy. During this month Red Baize was selling at 37 cents per yard, Molas-ses at 67 cents per gallon; Tea at 41 cents per pound, Tobacco 25 cents, Sugar 12 1-2 cents, Raisins 12 1-2 cents, Copperas 8 cents, large Pork 6 1-4 cents.

1803: Feb. 1, very clear and cold: 2, snows very fast in the forenoon; rains very fast in the afternoon: 3, rainy: 4, clear and cold: 5, clear and cold in the morning; begins to snow at dark: 6, some rain and hail, and a thick fog: 7, very warm; begins to rain at dark: 8, foggy in the morning; clears off very warm in the afternoon: 9, 10 & 11, pleasant weather; no sleighing: 12, begins to rain in the night: 13, rainy: 14, some snow fell: 15 & 16, clear and cold: 17, a very blustering snow storm: 18, snow and rain, and hazy: 19, 20 & 21, good weather; cloudy and warm: 22 & 23, very warm and rainy: 24, a snow storm: 25, 26 & 27, good weather and good sledding: 28, rainy.—New Rum sells for 75 cents per gallon; Corn for 75 cents per bushel: Half-bushel of Corn buys a common Milk Pail.

1804: Feb. 1, fair; many people are breaking open the roads: 2, a driving snow storm: 10, pleasant: 21, a severe blustering snow storm: 29, a great quantity snow fell last night.

1805: Feb. 1 & 2, much snow in the roads: 3, but little sleighing from Minot to Jay Point, the roads being full of snow. Dr. Hamlin goes on foot from his house in Livermore to Turner to visit the sick. 14, a storm of snow, hail and rain.—Many people this month have been employed in making snow paths.

NOTICE.

ALL persons are hereby cautioned against purchasing a Note of hand, given by the subscriber on the 6th day of December, 1825, payable to SETH PERKINS, or order in March next, for the sum of twelve dollars and fifty cents—^{as I have received no consideration for the same.} AMOS FULLER, Feb. 21.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

MR. BARTON,
Sir—As it is the custom with the editors of some papers to publish the "PAGES CURRENT," and thinking that something of the kind would be interesting to some of your subscribers, I send you the price of a few articles. Should it prove beneficial, I will make the list more perfect.—There can be no doubt as to its correctness, Yours, &c.

B. Z.

POLITICS—for the first rate there is no demand; of a second quality and low price does quite well in the hands of speculators. We think the article cannot rise at present.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE—is now a very scarce article. A small lot would find a ready market, as many of those persons who were supposed to have large lots on hand have become wholly destitute.

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE.—The market is overstocked with this article: it is, however, generally of a poor quality—But it would not be prudent to put that of the first rate on sale, as there are very few or no purchasers.

LITERATURE.—The imported of a low quality sells well—but the domestic is very dull generally. Many dealers in this article have failed, and it is rumoured that several more will be obliged to stop.

MISCHIEF-MAKERS—are busily engaged. Of late this description of business has increased, on account of several competitors in the trade. They have however pretty constant employment.

FASHION—is held uncommonly high and in great demand among the ladies. It is thought, however, by many, that the article will soon fall. It drags heavy with the gentlemen, and at present there is no prospect of a change.

DOVE.—Very few purchasers for the genuine article. Speculators trade a little with the spurious kind; but they all appear to evince a disposition to hold on until the market rises.

OLD BACHELORS.—Not very plenty; and what are in the market are not the first rate article.

OLD MAIDS.—Plenty, but generally sour and crabbed. Although there are a few prime and good ones, yet they are difficult to get hold of.

WOULD-BEES.—are very plenty in all professions, except usefulness in society.

SCHOOLS.

From an examination of the returns made to the office of the Secretary of State, pursuant to "An Act in addition to an Act to provide for the Education of youth," passed Feb. 25, 1825, we have drawn the following facts, which are both curious and important.

COUNTY OF YORK.

School Districts, 297
Children between 4 and 21 years, 20,810
Number, who usually attend School, 14,202
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$20,065 85
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$229 83

COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

School Districts, 323
Children between 4 and 21 years, 19,154
Number, who usually attend School, 13,080
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$22,126 71
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$1,520 06

The town of Portland did not return the number of children between 4 and 21 years of age.

The towns of Brunswick, Gray and New-Gloucester, made no return of the children, who usually attend schools.

COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

School Districts, 388
Children between 4 and 21 years, 24,760
Number, who usually attend School, 17,540
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$23,207 02
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$402 02

No return from Patrickton Plantation.

COUNTY OF HANCOCK.

School Districts, 275
Children between 4 and 21 years, 14,678
Number, who usually attend School, 10,499
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$13,642 74
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$487 60

No return from Brooksville, Knox and Orland.

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON.

School Districts, 83
Children between 4 and 21 years, 5009
Number, who usually attend School, 3446
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$56,26 85
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$206 20

No return from Charlotte, Machias, Robbinston and No. 14.

COUNTY OF KENNEBEC.

School Districts, 358
Children between 4 and 21 years, 19,625
Number, who usually attend School, 14,522
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$19,109 16
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$330 45

No return from Temple. Readfield and Waterville made no return of the number of children who usually attend Schools.

COUNTY OF OXFORD.

School Districts, 290
Children between 4 and 21 years, 12,936
Number, who usually attend School, 10,217
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$11,381 26
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$1,294 21

Andover did not return the number of children who usually attend Schools.

COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

School Districts, 250
Children between 4 and 21 years, 10,706
Number, who usually attend School, 7,551
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$10,225 02
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$241 11

No returns from Palmyra, Corinna, Phillips and No. 7, 7th Range.

COUNTY OF PENOBSKOT.

School Districts, 147
Children between 4 and 21 years, 7666
Number, who usually attend School, 6180
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$9,714 97
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$221 20

No returns from Brownville and Orono.

COUNTY OF PENOBSKOT.

School Districts, 2419
Children between 4 and 21 years, 132,344
Number, who usually attend Schools, 97,237
Amount raised and expended for Schools, \$135,190 18
Of this sum, there is raised from funds, \$4,932 66

No returns from Norway, Jan. 25, 1826.

NEW TAVERN.

THE subscriber informs his friends and the public, that he has opened a PUBLIC HOUSE, in Norway Village, between the Hay Stables and the Universalist Meeting-house, where he has all the accommodations which are convenient to the Traveller, and which he will afford on as low terms as any other Innholder. He solicits the public patronage, and means by assiduity and attention to deserve it.

INCREASE ROBINSON.

*8w 82

G. C. LYFORD

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public, that he has resumed the Retailing business at the Store he formerly occupied in Court-street, (and more recently improved by G. W. Goodwin,) where he has received and will receive in the course of the present week, a great variety of Fresh and New GOODS—consisting of blue, black, claret, mixt and drab BROADCLOTHS—blue, mixt and fancy coloured CASSIMERES—Toilinet, Valentia, swansdown and black silk Vestings—plaid and fig'd Bombezets—white, green, yellow and red Flannel—h— and fashionble Calicos, Furnitures and Copperplates—white, black and col'd Cambrics—Tartan and Scotch Plaids—scarlet Rattinets—plain and fig'd Book Muslins—elegant Swiss Muslins—Cambric do.—Long Lawns—Linen Cambrics—fig'd and checked do.—real and imitation Merito Hds.—black, plaid and fancy Silk Hds.—India and German flag do.—blue and yellow Cotton Flag do.—spotted, check'd and Berkley Neckers—real Merino Shawls and Mantles—raw silk Mantles—Bobbinett & Mecklin Laces—plain and mecklin and bobbinett Laces for veils—white and coloured pressed Crapes—black Shawls and Dresses—Gauze Veils—broad black Bombezets—Irish Linens—brown and black Linens—mourning Calicos and Ginghams—women's black and slate Worsted Hose—black and white Silk Hose—beaver, kid, horse skin and silk Gloves—children's Gloves—gentlemen's beaver, buck and doe Gloves—black and colour'd double chain Levantines—black Sincuas and Sarsnetts—changeable, plaid and green Silks—figured Silks—Carolina Plaids—Cassimere Shawls—cotton Shawls—linen and damask do.—linen damask Table Cloths—Hingham made cotton Umbrellas—black ostrich Plumes—great variety garniture Ribbons—black and coloured lustring Ribbons—common and trimming Tapes—chainet Gimp—piping Chords—lubit Buttons—gentlemen's coat and vest Buttons—black, blue and coloured Sewing Silk—ball and common Twist—camlet and twist Buttons—Hall's sewing Cottons, spool Cottons—floss Cotton in skeins and spools—pearl and thread Shirt Buttons, &c. &c.

—ALSO—

10 Pieces Saffinetts; 4 bales Factory Ginghams—4 bales brown Sheetings—3 do. brown Sheetings—2 bales Bedtickings—Sea Island Sheetings—fine and common bleach'd Sheetings—5—4 brown Sheetings—3—4 and 4—4 Checks—Knitting Cottons, &c. &c.

Likewise—Warp and Filling YARNS of the Exeter Factory, all numbers, and warranted.

N. B. The above GOODS were purchased very low, and will be sold as cheap as Goods ever were at the "Cheap Store." Purchasers are requested to call and see."

SHERIFF'S SALE.

OXFORD, ss.

TAKEN, and by virtue of execution will be sold; at Public Vendue, at the dwelling-house of Maj. PHILIP EASTMAN, Innholder in Fryeburg, on Wednesday the 22d day of March next, at one of the clock P. M.—all the right in equity of redemption which FREDERIC HOWARD has in and to the following described real estate, situated in Brownfield, to wit:—a certain tract or parcel of Land, lying on the County road leading to Portland.—Said real estate is the same that the said Howard purchased of James Osgood, Esq. of Fryeburg—and is mortgaged to James Osgood, for the sum of one hundred sixty-two dollars and twelve cents, as will appear by said mortgage, recorded in Lib. 11, Folio 160 & 161; in the Registry of Deeds for the Western District of Oxford County.

I. FRYE, Dep'y Sheriff.

Fryeburg, Feb. 17, 1826.

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.....Paris.

NOTICE is hereby given to the non-resident Proprietors of the following lots of Land, lying in Paris, in the County of Oxford, and State of Maine, that they are taxed in the bills committed to me the subscriber, to collect for the year 1824, in the following sums, to wit:

Names, Lots, Range, No. of Acres, Value.

Josiah Bartlett, 29 1 50 100 \$ 1 65
Bailey Bodwell, part, 6 1 20 60 99
Unknown, 29 3 100 150 2 48 2 15
Do. East part, 5 6 50 100 1 65 1 43
Do. N. part, 25 7 100 200 3 30 2 87

And unless said taxes and all intervening charges are paid to me the subscriber, on or before Wednesday the twenty-sixth day of March next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, so much of said lots will then be sold at the Court-House in Paris, as will pay the same.

CYRUS HAMLIN, Treasurer and Collector.

Paris, Feb. 11, 1826.

To the Hon. Benjamin Chandler, Judge of Probate, of Wills, &c.

WE the undersigned, your Petitioners, heirs in common to the real estate of AMOS TRASK, late of Dixfield, Gentleman, deceased, humbly sheweth, that we wish to hold our shares of said real estate in severally, according to our respective ownerships. We therefore pray that your Honour would order a division of the same, as the law in such cases provides.

PETER TRASK,

SILAS BARNARD,</p

